

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT 50X1-HUM

TOPIC Military Information from the Potzling Heath Training Area.

EVALUATION 50X1-HUM PLACE OBTAINED 50X1-HUM

DATE OF CONTENT 50X1-HUM

DATE OBTAINED 50X1-HUM DATE PREPARED 24 September 1951

REFERENCES 50X1-HUM

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 50X1-HUM

REMARKS 50X1-HUM

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1. A total of 31 50X1-HUM tanks and 8 JS tanks were entrained at the Jaevenitz railroad station on 20, 21 and 22 August 1951. The vehicles loaded together with the tanks 50X1-HUM
2. On 24 August, it was noticed that a direct road led from the village of Born to Camp Born, while another road leading to the camp branched off from the highway. The approaches to Camp Born were blocked by sentries. In the camp, 50X1-HUM only two wooden sheds sheltering tanks and SF guns. Many soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets were seen on the Born-Huetten road. A ration supply-distribution point has been established in the restaurant at Huetten. Trucks 50X1-HUM were seen picking up ration supplies there. A large tent containing piles of boxes was seen at the southeastern exit of Huetten. Two earth bunkers were seen beside the tent. A unit of platoon strength received theoretical instruction in the vicinity. Ten T-34 tanks 50X1-HUM and some SF guns were detrained at the Jaevenitz railroad station on 21 August. A convoy of 15 to 20 trucks with trailers was seen driving toward Born on 22 August. The trailers carried canvas-covered objects which, judging by the contours, appeared to be searchlights. 50X1-HUM
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3. A military billeting area, apparently occupied to capacity by troops with black epaulets was seen by the Gardelegen-Jaevenitz road, about 1 km north-west of Kloster Neuendorf on 25 August. The camp was surrounded by a 2-meter board fence which obstructed the view into the billeting area. 50X1-HUM the camp had previously housed a parachutist training center. The foundations of several destroyed buildings were observed about 1,000 meters south of the camp. Truck 50X1-HUM was seen hauling loaves of bread to the camp. (3) 50X1-HUM
4. A convoy of about 15 trucks occupied to capacity by troops and including trucks 50X1-HUM was seen driving toward Ucht-springe on 1 September. A convoy of about 20 trucks 50X1-HUM towing six 76.2-mm artillery pieces, was seen passing through Doebelin on 3 September, coming from the direction of Stendal and proceeding toward Jaevenitz. Another 50X1-HUM

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convoy driving in the same direction on the same day consisted of 10 trucks with 4 x 76.2-mm guns and 2 x 160-mm mortars. One of the trucks with a gun [redacted] and one of the trucks [redacted]. Other vehicles seen driving through Hochelien individually between 1 and 3 September [redacted]

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(4)

5. The former Soviet camp site northeast of Weissesarte was checked on 30 August. Some of the caution signs with Soviet inscriptions lay on the ground while others were painted over to read "Attention Nursery" in German. No wooden barracks or other troop quarters were noticed, nor were any troops observed. (5)

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6. Twelve T-34/85 tanks, each with 12 infantrymen on top, were observed at Born on 5 September. Ammunition was stored in several earth bunkers on the western edge of the camp in the woods south of Huetten. Vehicles seen in Huetten included 6 trucks [redacted] towing light AA guns, 1 jeep [redacted] mounting an AA machine gun and 14 trucks [redacted] towing 8 x 57-mm AT guns. The 200 to 300 motor vehicles seen on the Born-Huetten road [redacted]

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Comments.

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- (1) [redacted] the units loaded were components of the LXXIX Rifle Corps, headquarters units of the Third Shock Army, elements of the Army's 136th Av Tank CF Regt, and components of the 9th Recz Div. [redacted] 6 T-34/85 tanks being detained at Stendal on 29 August 1951. [redacted]. The shipment unloaded in Stendal may have been included [redacted]
- (2) The vehicles observed in the Born and Huetten area and at the troop camps belong to the 19th Gds Recz Div, the 7th Gds Tank Div, the 10th Gds Tank Div, the LXXIX Rifle Corps, the 7th Gds Recz Div, the 18th Recz Div, the 3rd Gds AA Div, the 13th AA Div, headquarters units of both the Third Shock Army and the Eighth Gds Army and the 1st and 2nd Shock Army. [redacted] detachments of the Eighth Gds Army and the Fourth Gds Recz Army are still believed to be at the troop training grounds in addition to components of the Third Shock Army and the Third Gds Recz Army. [redacted]
- (3) The camp located north of the Stendal-Jaevenitz road is reported for the first time. Judging from truck [redacted] observed there, the camp may have been occupied by a component unit of the Third Shock Army.
- (4) [redacted] the convoys primarily belong to elements of the 207th Rifle Div which, as before, are still believed to be rotated from their Stendal post to Jutzing north for field training. [redacted] Most of the vehicles seen moving individually belong to the LXXIX Rifle Corps and the 207th Rifle Div.
- (5) [redacted] a camp 1 km northeast of Weissesarte was occupied by Soviet tank troops in the middle of August 1951. [redacted]

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